

13 November 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, EE

ATTN: [REDACTED]

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SUBJECT

25X1A2d1 [REDACTED]

1. Rowe stated he is willing to kill a story on Subject if it "involves espionage matters" of interest to the U.S. Asking him to kill the story on such conditions could be read as confirming Subject's supposed involvement in "espionage matters." Also, it may nourish a suspicion that we have something to hide in this case. Finally, there is no certainty that Rowe will not file a story headlined as "the story that CIA failed to suppress."
2. When Subject's allegations of "spies in government" first broke, reputable publications, including LIFE, ignored the story. Only the wire service items reporting that the NEW YORK JOURNAL AMERICAN carried such a story were published. All reputable media, including the wire services, have ignored Subject's claim to be a Romanov. This includes the Washington representative of PARIS MATCH, who contacted the undersigned for guidance.
3. It is possible that new biographic material on Subject gathered in Poland will interest some European publication in doing a "Sunday supplement" piece on Subject. The basic story, however, is old hat in both Europe and the U.S. It is not very likely to have much influence.
4. It is suggested that Rowe be told something along the following lines: "It is for you to make the decision. When the story first broke, CIA made no attempt to kill the story and refused to comment on it. That policy still holds." The following might be added: "Most publications, including LIFE, have made their own evaluations of Subject's story and decided not to run it."

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[REDACTED]

Paul M. Chrétien
Assistant to the Director
for Public Affairs

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